

Case Study: Anvil Mining – Integration the key to transcontinental growth



Operating in a high-risk political and economic environment where network dropouts were a constant challenge, Anvil Mining required a reliable, effective IT system capable of being implemented in the remote areas of Africa. It also required a scalable, flexible and integrated solution to support its growth plans and automate business processes.

The strong mining reference sites for Pronto's flagship solution, PRONTO-Xi, assisted with Anvil Mining's decision. "We found Pronto was proving itself in Africa, with other Australian mining companies using it very effectively," said Senior Business Analyst at Anvil Mining, Troy Barclay.

In 2002 Anvil Mining implemented PRONTO-Xi, deploying the following tools: distribution, financials, maintenance management, payroll and project costing.



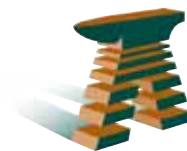
Ease of use

According to Troy, one of the biggest benefits has been Pronto's ease of use, an important consideration when deployed in a country with comparatively low education levels.

"The take up from the Congolese using PRONTO-Xi has been high, given their lack of work opportunities and use of finance systems in Congo due to internal conflicts," said Troy. "I think this really paints a clear picture of just how user-friendly the system really is. We may not have had the same success if we had chosen another system."

ANVIL MINING

- ◆ Leading copper producer in Congo, with two mines located in Kinsevere and Mutoshi
- ◆ Listed on the ASX and Toronto Stock Exchange
- ◆ Headquartered in Perth with 200 staff in Congo and Australia
- ◆ Produced 41,354 tonnes of copper metal in 2008 and over one million ounces of silver



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Automation introduces cost-control culture

The Global Financial Crisis caused a halt in construction of Stage II SXEW plant at Anvil Mining's largest mine, Kinsevere, as well as a significant reduction in staff. A challenging financial climate meant it was an opportune time to look at the company's processes and the automation and more efficient use of staff time became even more critical.

PRONTO-Xi's sales and purchase order modules deliver key information on one platform and in real-time, eliminating manual practices. More recently, Anvil Mining began using the report distribution manager within the financials tool, which enables automatic generation of reports.

"With the click of a button, a report with the correct information is generated within minutes, eliminating the need for heads of departments to run these reports manually. It has allowed us to utilise staff time more efficiently," explained Troy.

"It has improved our budgeting accuracy significantly because the information we get out of PRONTO-Xi is real-time and is managed in a fully integrated database."

Troy Barclay, Senior Business Analyst at Anvil Mining,

Customisation drives efficiencies

With tax procedures varying from country to country, it was important for Anvil Mining to have Pronto's solution tailored to meet Congolese tax requirements.

"We have a fully compliant customised version of payroll and reporting in Congolese, and the methodology is so successful we have been approached by other companies in Congo to buy the rights to our payroll model," said Troy.

Improved accuracy through information management

Through the seamless integration of Anvil Mining's business intelligence tool IBM Cognos TM1 with PRONTO-Xi, the company is able to accurately track and analyse forecasting and budgeting information as required.

"Effectively PRONTO-Xi has become a robust data source that allows us to access information from the one area," explained Troy. "It has improved our budgeting accuracy significantly because the information we get out of PRONTO-Xi is real-time and is managed in a fully integrated database, as opposed to multiple versions in Excel."

The future

According to Troy, a huge benefit in the future will be PRONTO-Xi's maintenance management module, which will be fully operational by mid 2011 for the \$400 million Stage II SXEW plant at Kinsevere and be used for all fixed and mobile plant maintenance.



KEY BENEFITS

- ◆ Automation has resulted in significant cost-savings and increased staff productivity
- ◆ Significant improvement in accuracy from real-time information
- ◆ Support growth strategy through integration and scalability
- ◆ Robust and reliable solution allows for implementation in remote locations
- ◆ User-friendly nature has enabled easy take-up in Congo
- ◆ Cost of maintenance management module will pay for itself through reduced downtime

Currently the company's preventative maintenance program resides around a series of spreadsheets.

"We're looking to utilise the system to alert us whenever maintenance needs to be scheduled. It is absolutely critical for us to minimise downtime when we're going to be producing 60,000 tonnes of copper per annum at full production, which has the potential to translate to \$300 million in revenue annually," said Troy.

"That's why reducing downtime is vital," added Troy. "Each day we're down, we're effectively losing \$800,000. The cost of this module will pay for itself by just avoiding one day of downtime."

Troy believes PRONTO-Xi's competitive advantage stems from its ability to be implemented in remote locations. "In Australia, we would be able to buy any package off the shelf and deploy it there with no issues. The fact that we've been able to use PRONTO-Xi so efficiently in Congo demonstrates the solution's reliability and robustness."

About Pronto Software

Pronto® Software is an international provider of fully integrated Enterprise Management Systems. With more than 30 years of experience, Pronto Software enables over 1,200 customers worldwide to maximise productivity, streamline their supply chains and deliver superior customer service.



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